



Federal Election Commission

Washington, D.C. 20463

Reports Due in 2006

This handout on filing requirements for 2006 is supplemented by the reporting tables on the following pages.

General Information

It is the responsibility of the committee treasurer to file required reports on time. To assist treasurers, the Commission sends committees notices of upcoming reporting deadlines. Please note that filing deadlines are not extended in cases where the filing date falls on a weekend or federal holiday. In such cases, reports filed by first-class mail or courier must be received by the Commission on the business day preceding the filing date. Reports filed electronically must be received by the Commission and pass the validation test by 11:59 Eastern time on the filing date.

Under the Commission's mandatory electronic filing regulations, individuals and organizations¹ that receive contributions or make expenditures in excess of \$50,000 in a calendar year—or expect to do so—must file all reports and statements with the FEC electronically. Electronic filers who instead file on paper or submit an electronic report that does not pass the validation test will be considered nonfilers and may be subject to enforcement actions (including administrative fines).

Committees that file with the Secretary of the Senate² are not subject to the mandatory electronic filing rules, but are encouraged to file an unofficial electronic copy of their reports with the FEC in order to speed disclosure. 11 CFR 104.18.

The Commission's electronic filing software, FEC-File 5, can be downloaded from the FEC's web site at <http://www.fec.gov/electfil/electron.shtml>. Filers may also use commercial or privately-developed software as long as the software meets the Commission's format specifications, which are available on the Commission's

web site. Most paper forms are available at the FEC's web site (<http://www.fec.gov/info/forms.shtml>) and from FEC Faxline, the agency's automated fax system (202/501-3413). The 2006 Reporting Schedule is also available on the FEC's web site (http://www.fec.gov/info/report_dates.shtml), and from Faxline. For more information on reporting, call the FEC at 800/424-9530 or 202/694-1100.

Year-End Reports Covering 2005 Activity

All committees must file a 2005 year-end report due January 31, 2006. The coverage and reporting dates are found on page 4.

Reports Covering 2006 Activity

To find out which reports your committee must file in 2006, check the Guide to 2006 Reporting on page 3. Then check the tables on page 4 and 5-7 for reporting dates. Please note that committees active in special elections in 2006 may have to file additional special election reports, as explained on page 3.

Authorized Committees of Candidates

House and Senate Candidates. All campaigns that raise or spend more than \$5,000 (and thus trigger registration and reporting requirements) must file quarterly reports in 2006. The authorized committees of House and Senate candidates must also file pre-primary election and pre-general election reports before any election in which the candidate runs in 2006. These committees must also file a post-general election report if the candidate runs in the general election. 11 CFR 104.5(a)(2). Committees that wish to terminate must continue filing reports until notified in writing that their termination report has been accepted by the Commission.

Principal campaign committees of candidates running in 2006 should have filed FEC Form 3Z-1 as part of their July 2005 Quarterly report and must file another as part of their Year-End report, due January 31, 2006. 11 CFR 104.19.

The information provided on Form 3Z-1 allows opposing candidates to compute their "gross receipts advantage," which is used to determine whether a candidate is entitled to increased contribution and coordinated party expenditure limits under the "Millionaires' Amendment." 2 U.S.C. §§441a(i) and 441a-1. Form 3Z-1 is included in the FEC Form 3 package. Principal

^{*}The information provided in this handout is based on an article published in the January 2005 Record, page 4.

¹The regulation covers individuals and organizations required to file reports of contributions and/or expenditures with the Commission, including any person making an independent expenditure. Disbursements for electioneering communications (EC) do not count toward the \$50,000 threshold for mandatory electronic filing. 11 CFR 104.18(a).

² See "Where to File" on page 2.

campaign committees of candidates who ran in past elections or are running in future elections must also file quarterly reports in 2006. Committees that wish to terminate must continue filing quarterly reports until notified in writing that their termination report has been accepted by the Commission.

Presidential Candidates. All committees authorized by Presidential candidates must file on either a monthly or a quarterly schedule in 2006. A Presidential committee wishing to change its filing schedule should notify the Commission in writing. 11 CFR 104.5(b)(2).

PACs and Party Committees

State, District and Local Party Committees. State, district and local party committees that engage in federal election activity (FEA) must file on a monthly schedule. 11 CFR 300.36(c)(1). Committees that do not engage in FEA may file on a quarterly basis in 2006. (See the April 2003 *Record*, page 5, for more information on monthly filing for state, district and local party committees.)

National Party Committees. National committees of political parties must file on a monthly schedule. 2 U.S.C. §434(a)(4)(B).

Political Action Committees. PACs (separate segregated funds and nonconnected committees) that filed on a semiannual basis during 2005 must file on a quarterly basis in 2006. Monthly filers continue on the monthly schedule. PACs may change their filing schedule, but must first notify the Commission in writing. Electronic filers must file this request electronically. A committee may change its filing frequency only once a year. 11 CFR 104.5(c).

Pre- and Post-Election Reports. Please note that in 2006, party committees and PACs that file monthly reports file a pre-general election report and a post-general election report in lieu of the reports otherwise due in November and December. Party committees and PACs that file quarterly reports also file:

- A pre-primary election report and a pre-general election report before any election in which the committee makes a previously undisclosed contribution to or an expenditure on behalf of a candidate in that election; and
- A post-general election report.

Where to File

Committee treasurers must file FEC reports with the appropriate federal office. State filing requirements also apply to reports filed by the principal campaign committees of candidates seeking office in Guam and Puerto Rico and to reports filed by PACs and party committees who support these candidates. 2 U.S.C. §439(a)(2)(B).

House Candidate Committees. Principal campaign committees of House candidates file with the FEC. 11 CFR 105.1.

Senate Candidate Committees. Principal campaign committees of Senate candidates file with the Secretary of the Senate. 11 CFR 105.2.

Presidential Committees. Principal campaign committees of Presidential candidates file with the FEC. 11 CFR 105.3.

Candidate Committees with More Than One Authorized Committee. If a campaign includes more than one authorized committee, the principal campaign committee files, with its own report, the reports prepared by the other authorized committees as well as a consolidated report (FEC Form 3Z). 11 CFR 104.3(f).

PACs and Party Committees. PACs and party committees file with the FEC. However, committees that support only Senate candidates file with the Secretary of the Senate, as do the national Democratic and Republican Senatorial committees. 11 CFR 105.2 and 11 CFR 105.4.

Waiver of State Filing

All 50 states are now qualified under the Commission's State Filing Waiver program and are relieved of the requirement to make paper copies of FEC reports available to the public. As a result, political committees no longer have to file copies of their federal reports at the state level.³ Committees in territories not certified for the waiver must continue to file copies of their reports with the appropriate state election office. The addresses for the federal offices (FEC and Secretary of the Senate) appear in the instructions for the Summary Page of FEC Forms 3 and 3X. A list of state filing offices is available from the Commission.

Late Filing

The Federal Election Campaign Act does not permit the Commission to grant extensions of filing deadlines under any circumstances. Filing late reports can result in enforcement action by the Commission. The agency pursues compliance actions against late-filers and nonfilers under the Administrative Fine program and on a case-by-case basis. For more information on the Administrative Fine program, visit the FEC web site at <http://www.fec.gov/af.shtml>.

Independent Expenditures

Political committees and other persons who make independent expenditures at any time during the calendar year—up to and including the 20th day before an election—must disclose this activity within 48 hours each time that the expenditures aggregate \$10,000 or more. This reporting requirement is in addition to the

³ The Commission has certified that the 50 states, American Samoa and Virgin Islands qualify for filing waivers. Committees that file their reports at the FEC need not file copies in these states. Guam and Puerto Rico are not currently in the State Filing Waiver Program.

Guide to 2006 Reporting

Note: All committees must also file a 2005 Year-End Report, due January 31, 2006.

Type of Filer	Required Reports				
	Quarterly	Monthly	Pre-Primary ¹	Pre-General	Post- General
House and Senate Campaigns	X		X	X	X
			Required Only if Candidate Runs in Election		
Presidential Campaigns ²	X	OR X	Not Applicable		
PACs and Party Committees Filing Monthly		X		X	X
				Filed in Lieu of November and December Monthly Reports	
PACs and Party Committees Filing Quarterly ³	X		X	X	X
			Required Only if Committee Makes Contributions or Expenditures in Connection with Election during Reporting Period ⁴		Required Regardless of Activity

¹ This category includes pre-convention and pre-runoff reports.

² Presidential committees wishing to change their filing frequency during 2006 should notify the Commission in writing. Electronic filers must file this request electronically.

³ PACs and party committees that filed on a semiannual basis in 2005 file on a quarterly basis in 2006. To avoid the need to file pre-primary and pre-runoff reports, these committees may change to monthly filing if they first notify the Commission in writing. Committees may change filing frequency only once a year. 11CFR 104.5(c). National party committees and state and local party committees with reportable receipts or disbursements for federal election activity must file on a monthly schedule. 11CFR 300.36(c)(1).

⁴ A reporting period begins with the close of books for the last report filed and ends with the closing date for the applicable report.

requirement to file 24-hour notices of independent expenditures each time that disbursements for independent expenditures aggregate at or above \$1,000 during the last 20 days—up to 24 hours—before an election. 2 U.S.C. §§434(b),(d) and (g). Political committees must report all independent expenditures, whether they trigger the 48- or 24-hour reporting thresholds or not, on their regularly-scheduled disclosure reports. Other persons report these expenditures once they exceed \$250. 11 CFR 104.4(b)(1) and 109.10(b).

All individuals, persons and committees, including Senate committees, must file their 24- and 48-hour notices of independent expenditures with the Commission. 11 CFR 104.4, 109.10, 105.1 and 105.2.

Committees Active in Special Elections

Committees authorized by candidates running in any 2006 special election must file pre- and post-election reports in addition to regularly scheduled reports. 11 CFR 104.5(h). They are also required to comply with the 48-hour notice requirement for contributions of \$1,000 or more (including loans) received shortly before an election. See 11 CFR 104.5(f).

PACs and party committees supporting candidates running in special elections may also have to file pre- and post-election reports—unless they file on a monthly basis. 11 CFR 104.5(c)(3) and 104.5(h). All PACs are subject to 24-hour and 48-hour reporting of independent expenditures made before an election. See 11 CFR 104.4(b) and (c) and 104.5(g).

Electioneering Communications

Additionally, individuals and other persons who make electioneering communications (EC)⁴ that aggregate in excess of \$10,000 must file disclosure statements with the Commission within 24 hours of distribution to the public. Charts detailing the EC periods for Congressional primary and runoff elections are available on the FEC web site at http://www.fec.gov/info/charts_ec_dates.shtml.

⁴ On December 15, 2005, the Commission approved revised regulations governing electioneering communications. The changes came in response to court decisions in *Shays v. FEC*. A summary of the revised regulations will appear in the February Record. In the meantime, please visit the Rulemakings section of our web site for further information.

2005 Year-End Report

Note: All committees file this report.

Report	Period Covered	Filing Date ¹
Year-End ²	Closing date of last report through 12/31/05	January 31, 2006

2006 Monthly Reports

Note: All national party committees and any state, district or local party committee that engages in federal election activity (FEA) must file monthly reports.

Report	Period Covered	Filing Date ¹
February	1/1 - 1/31	2/20
March	2/1 - 2/28	3/20
April	3/1 - 3/31	4/20
May	4/1 - 4/30	5/20*
June	5/1 - 5/31	6/20
July	6/1 - 6/30	7/20
August	7/1 - 7/31	8/20*
September	8/1 - 8/31	9/20
October	9/1 - 9/30	10/20
Pre-General	10/1 - 10/18	10/26
Post-General	10/19 - 11/27	12/7
Year-End	11/28 - 12/31	1/31/2007

2006 Quarterly Reports³

Report	Close of Books	Filing Date ¹
April Quarterly	3/31	4/15*
July Quarterly	6/30	7/15*
October Quarterly	9/30	10/15*
Year-End	12/31	1/31/2007

Election Reports for November 7th General Election

Report	Close of Books	Filing Date ¹
Pre-General ⁴	10/18	10/26
Post-General	11/27	12/7

* Note that this filing date falls on a weekend. Filing dates are not extended for weekends or federal holidays.

¹ Reports sent by registered or certified mail, by Express or Priority Mail with delivery confirmation or by overnight delivery service with an online tracking system must be postmarked, or deposited with the mailing service, by the filing date. Reports sent by other means—including first class mail—must be received by the filing date. 2 U.S.C. §434(a)(5) and 11 CFR 104.5(e).

² Authorized committees of candidates in the 2006 general election file Form 3Z-1.

³ Principal campaign committees must also file a pre-primary report if the candidate is running in a primary, and all quarterly filers must file pre-primary reports before any primary in which they make a contribution or expenditure on behalf of a candidate in that primary. Primary reporting dates are listed on pages 6-9.

⁴ If sent by registered, certified or overnight mail, the pre-general must be postmarked by October 23.

Pre-Election Reporting Dates: 2006 Primary and Runoff Elections

State	Election Date	Close of Books ⁺	Mailing Date ⁺⁺	Filing Date ⁺⁺	48-Hour Notices ^{**} (candidates only)
Alabama	6/6	5/17	5/22	5/25	5/18 - 6/3
Runoff	6/27	6/7	6/12	6/15	6/8 - 6/24
Alaska	8/22	8/2	8/7	8/10	8/3 - 8/19
American Samoa	11/7	10/18	10/23	10/26	10/19 - 11/4
Runoff	11/21	11/1	11/9 ¹	11/9	11/2 - 11/18
*Arizona	9/12	8/23	8/28	8/31	8/24 - 9/9
Arkansas	5/23	5/3	5/8	5/11	5/4 - 5/20
Runoff	6/13	5/24	5/29 ²	6/1	5/25 - 6/10
*California	6/6	5/17	5/22	5/25	5/18 - 6/3
Colorado	8/8	7/19	7/24	7/27	7/20 - 8/5
*Connecticut	8/8	7/19	7/24	7/27	7/20 - 8/5
*Delaware	9/12	8/23	8/28	8/31	8/24 - 9/9
District of Columbia	9/12	8/23	8/28	8/31	8/24 - 9/9
*Florida	9/5	8/16	8/21	8/24	8/17 - 9/2
Georgia	7/18	6/28	7/3	7/6 ³	6/29 - 7/15
Primary Runoff	8/8	7/19	7/24	7/27	7/20 - 8/5
Guam	9/2	8/13	8/18	8/21	8/14 - 8/30
*Hawaii	9/23	9/3	9/8	9/11	9/4 - 9/20
Idaho	5/23	5/3	5/8	5/11	5/4 - 5/20
Illinois	3/21	3/1	3/6	3/9	3/2 - 3/18
*Indiana	5/2	4/12	4/17	4/20 ⁴	4/13 - 4/29
Iowa	6/6	5/17	5/22	5/25	5/18 - 6/3
Kansas	8/1	7/12	7/17	7/20 ³	7/13 - 7/29

⁺ This date indicates the end of the reporting period. A reporting period always begins the day after the closing date of the last report filed. If the Committee is new and has not previously filed a report, the first report must cover all activity that occurred before the committee registered.

⁺⁺ Reports sent by registered or certified mail must be postmarked by the mailing date. Committees should keep the mailing receipt with its postmark as proof of filing. If using overnight mail, the delivery service must receive the report by the mailing date. "Overnight mail" includes priority or express mail which has a delivery confirmation or an online tracking system and is scheduled for next business day delivery. Reports filed by any other means must be received by the Commission (or Secretary of the Senate for Senate committees) by the filing date.

* States holding 2006 Senate elections.

** Filed by candidate committees only. 48-Hour Notices are required if the campaign committee receives contributions (including in-kind gifts or advances of goods or services; loans from the candidate or other non-bank sources; and guarantees or endorsements of bank loans to the candidate or committee) of \$1,000 or more, during the applicable period.

¹ The mailing date is the same as the filing date because the computed mail date would fall one day before the primary/general is held.

² Notice that the registered/certified & overnight mailing date falls on a weekend or federal holiday. The report should be postmarked before that date.

³ The July Quarterly Report is waived for committees filing the Georgia, Kansas, Oklahoma and Tennessee Pre-Primary Reports. See 11 CFR 104.5(a)(1)(iii) and (c)(1)(i)(C).

⁴ The April Quarterly Report is waived for committees filing the Indiana, North Carolina and Ohio pre-primary reports. See 11 CFR 104.5(a)(1)(iii) and (c)(1)(i)(C).

Pre-Election Reporting Dates: 2006 Primary and Runoff Elections

State	Election Date	Close of Books ⁺	Mailing Date ⁺⁺	Filing Date ⁺⁺	48-Hour Notices ^{**} (candidates only)
Kentucky	5/16	4/26	5/1	5/4	4/27 - 5/13
Louisiana	8/11 ⁵	7/22	7/27	7/30 ⁶	7/23 - 8/8
*Maine	6/13	5/24	5/29 ²	6/1	5/25 - 6/10
*Maryland	9/12	8/23	8/28	8/31	8/24 - 9/9
*Massachusetts	9/19	8/30	9/4 ²	9/7	8/31 - 9/16
*Michigan	8/8	7/19	7/24	7/27	7/20 - 8/5
*Minnesota	9/12	8/23	8/28	8/31	8/24 - 9/9
*Mississippi	6/6	5/17	5/22	5/25	5/18 - 6/3
Runoff	6/27	6/7	6/12	6/15	6/8 - 6/24
*Missouri	8/8	7/19	7/24	7/27	7/20 - 8/5
*Montana	6/6	5/17	5/22	5/25	5/18 - 6/3
*Nebraska	5/9	4/19	4/24	4/27	4/20 - 5/6
*Nevada	8/15	7/26	7/31	8/3	7/27 - 8/12
New Hampshire	9/12	8/23	8/28	8/31	8/24 - 9/9
*New Jersey	6/6	5/17	5/22	5/25	5/18 - 6/3
*New Mexico	6/6	5/17	5/22	5/25	5/18 - 6/3
*New York	9/12	8/23	8/28	8/31	8/24 - 9/9
North Carolina	5/2	4/12	4/17	4/20 ⁴	4/13 - 4/29
Runoff	5/30	5/10	5/15	5/18	5/11 - 5/27
*North Dakota	6/13	5/24	5/29 ²	6/1	5/25 - 6/10

⁺ This date indicates the end of the reporting period. A reporting period always begins the day after the closing date of the last report filed. If the Committee is new and has not previously filed a report, the first report must cover all activity that occurred before the committee registered.

⁺⁺ Reports sent by registered or certified mail must be postmarked by the mailing date. Committees should keep the mailing receipt with its postmark as proof of filing. If using overnight mail, the delivery service must receive the report by the mailing date. "Overnight mail" includes priority or express mail which has a delivery confirmation or an online tracking system and is scheduled for next business day delivery. Reports filed by any other means must be received by the Commission (or Secretary of the Senate for Senate committees) by the filing date.

* States holding 2006 Senate elections.

** Filed by candidate committees only. 48-Hour Notices are required if the campaign committee receives contributions (including in-kind gifts or advances of goods or services; loans from the candidate or other non-bank sources; and guarantees or endorsements of bank loans to the candidate or committee) of \$1,000 or more, during the applicable period.

² Notice that the registered/certified & overnight mailing date falls on a weekend or federal holiday. The report should be postmarked before that date.

⁴ The April Quarterly Report is waived for committees filing the Indiana, North Carolina and Ohio pre-primary reports. See 11 CFR 104.5(a)(1)(iii) and (c)(1)(i)(C).

⁵ In AO 2000-29, the Commission determined that the last day to qualify for a position on the general election ballot in Louisiana - in this case August 11, 2006 - must be considered the primary election date for Louisiana candidates. See 11 CFR 100.2(c)(4)(i). Additionally, under state law if no candidate in the November 7 general election receives over 50% of the vote, a runoff election will be held on December 9, 2006. If the runoff is held, a pre-runoff report will be due on November 27, 2006. The close of the books for the pre-runoff report will be November 19, and the mailing date for reports sent by registered/certified mail will be November 24.

⁶ Notice that this deadline falls on a weekend or federal holiday. Filing dates are not extended for weekends or holidays. Reports filed on paper or 3.5 inch diskette must be received by the appropriate filing offices the Friday before the filing date.

Pre-Election Reporting Dates: 2006 Primary and Runoff Elections

State	Election Date	Close of Books ⁺	Mailing Date ⁺⁺	Filing Date ⁺⁺	48-Hour Notices ^{**} (candidates only)
*Ohio	5/2	4/12	4/17	4/20 ⁴	4/13 - 4/29
Oklahoma	7/25	7/5	7/10	7/13 ³	7/6 - 7/22
Runoff	8/22	8/2	8/7	8/10	8/3 - 8/19
Oregon	5/16	4/26	5/1	5/4	4/27 - 5/13
*Pennsylvania	5/16	4/26	5/1	5/4	4/27 - 5/13
Puerto Rico	n/a				
*Rhode Island	9/12	8/23	8/28	8/31	8/24 - 9/9
South Carolina	6/13	5/24	5/29 ²	6/1	5/25 - 6/10
Runoff	6/27	6/7	6/15 ¹	6/15	6/8 - 6/24
South Dakota	6/6	5/17	5/22	5/25	5/18 - 6/3
Runoff	6/20	5/31	6/8 ¹	6/8	6/1 - 6/17
*Tennessee	8/3	7/14	7/19	7/22 ^{3,6}	7/15 - 7/31
*Texas	3/7	2/15	2/20 ²	2/23	2/16 - 3/4
Runoff	4/11	3/22	3/27	3/30	3/23 - 4/8
*Utah	6/27	6/7	6/12	6/15	6/8 - 6/24
*Vermont	9/12	8/23	8/28	8/31	8/24 - 9/9
Virgin Islands	9/9	8/20	8/25	8/28	8/21 - 9/6
Primary Runoff	9/23	9/3	9/11 ¹	9/11	9/4 - 9/20
*Virginia	6/13	5/24	5/29 ²	6/1	5/25 - 6/10
*Washington	9/19	8/30	9/4 ²	9/7	8/31 - 9/16
*West Virginia	5/9	4/19	4/24	4/27	4/20 - 5/6
*Wisconsin	9/12	8/23	8/28	8/31	8/24 - 9/9
*Wyoming	8/22	8/2	8/7	8/10	8/3 - 8/19

+ This date indicates the end of the reporting period. A reporting period always begins the day after the closing date of the last report filed. If the Committee is new and has not previously filed a report, the first report must cover all activity that occurred before the committee registered.

++ Reports sent by registered or certified mail must be postmarked by the mailing date. Committees should keep the mailing receipt with its postmark as proof of filing. If using overnight mail, the delivery service must receive the report by the mailing date. "Overnight mail" includes priority or express mail which has a delivery confirmation or an online tracking system and is scheduled for next business day delivery. Reports filed by any other means must be received by the Commission (or Secretary of the Senate for Senate committees) by the filing date.

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¹ The mailing date is the same as the filing date because the computed mail date would fall one day before the primary/general is held.

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³ The July Quarterly Report is waived for committees filing the Georgia, Kansas, Oklahoma and Tennessee Pre-Primary Reports. See 11 CFR 104.5(a)(1)(iii) and (c)(1)(i)(C).

⁴ The April Quarterly Report is waived for committees filing the Indiana, North Carolina and Ohio pre-primary reports. See 11 CFR 104.5(a)(1)(iii) and (c)(1)(i)(C).

⁶ Notice that this deadline falls on a weekend or federal holiday. Filing dates are not extended for weekends or holidays. Reports filed on paper or 3.5 inch diskette must be received by the appropriate filing offices(s) the Friday before the filing date.